

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE TULARE IRRIGATION DISTRICT HELD
VIA ZOOM TELECONFERENCE ON THE
12th DAY OF OCTOBER 2021 AT THE HOUR OF 9:00 A.M.**

Call to Order and Roll Call:

Mr. Fukuda reported due to the Governor's Executive Order (N-29-20) and the declared state of emergency, including current social distancing directives as a result of the threat of the COVID-19 virus, the Tulare Irrigation District (TID) Board members met at the District Office (6826 Avenue 240, Tulare, CA 93274) under social distancing guidelines. There was no physical location for this meeting for the public. Members of the public and other officials participated in the Open Session portion of the meeting remotely via Zoom teleconference.

Directors present at the meeting held at the date and time above designated were President David Bixler, Rick Borges, Dave Martin, Scott Rogers, and Mike Thomas. Staff present at the meeting were Aaron Fukuda, General Manager; Kathi Artis, Controller and Treasurer; Beth Holmes, Senior Administrator and Assessor-Collector; James Fisher, Water Resources Engineer; Wayne Fox, O&M Superintendent; Marco Crenshaw, Watermaster; and Jeremy Barroll, Assistant Engineer. Also present via Zoom teleconference roll call were Don Wright of Water Wrights, Johnny Gailey with the Delta View Water Association, Matt Klinchuch, and Geoff Vanden Heuvel. Mr. Bixler thanked everyone for attending and announced that there was a full quorum of the Board of Directors present. President Bixler asked if there were any changes, additions, or deletions to the agenda, of which Mr. Fukuda reported there were none. The meeting was thereupon called to order by President Bixler.

Public Comments:

No Public comments were provided.

Approval of Minutes:

Director Bixler then noted that the minutes of the regular meeting of September 14, 2021 were distributed and asked if any errors or omissions were noted therein. By the motion of Director Rogers and seconded by Director Borges, unanimously carried by all Directors present, the minutes of the September 14, 2021 meeting was thereupon approved.

Watermaster Report:

Lake Kaweah Storage and Operations/Water Supply Outlook - Mr. Crenshaw began his report by reporting on the operations of Lake Kaweah and Millerton Lake. He noted that Lake Kaweah was at approximately 20,235 AF of storage, and Millerton Lake was at around 307,652 AF of storage.

Mr. Crenshaw presented for discussion the Average SST Anomalies for September 6, 2020 - October 9, 2021. Mr. Crenshaw stated the mass of warm water was thinning out but still there, providing a dry pattern so far. Mr. Crenshaw said it could go away in December, and it can be wet or dry.

Then, Mr. Crenshaw presented a map of KMP Complex Fire highlighting the fire presently had burned a quarter of the Kaweah Watershed.

Lastly, Mr. Crenshaw provided an update on diversions and deliveries through September. Reporting the following: City of Visalia Diversions to TID totaled 450 AF; Water Delivered to Farm Turnouts: 134 AF; District Groundwater Recharge: 316 AF; % Diversion to Farm Turnouts: 30%; % Recharge in District Basins: 37%; and % Recharge in District Canals: 33%.

Water Management Activities and Issues - Mr. Fukuda presented material regarding the California State Water Project (SWP) and estimates that with the current reservoir status, the SWP will need to have a 140% runoff to be considered average. He explained that the dry conditions of 2021 have left reservoirs at all-time lows, which will require a significant amount of rainfall and snowpack to replenish the reservoirs.

O&M Superintendent Report:

Routine Work and Construction Projects - Mr. Fox provided a report on operations and maintenance activities in the third quarter of 2021. Activities included discussing safety meetings, maintenance projects, construction projects, herbicide applications, and vehicle and equipment maintenance.

Treasurer Reports:

Approval of Financial Statements - Ms. Artis presented the financial statements for September 2021 for the Board's review and consideration. She addressed first the revenue and expense statement, indicating that the total revenue for September 2021 was \$1,894,593, which was approximately 37.75% of the revised budget. Ms. Artis next presented the expenses, highlighting several items and reporting expenses from September totaling \$5,234,255, which was approximately 66.77% of the revised budget. She then went on with presenting the statements of cash flows and net assets, stating that the current cash standing was at \$10,101,296. Based on the Statement of Net Assets, Ms. Artis reported that Total Liabilities were at \$12,899,703, and the Total Equity in the District stood at \$34,011,693. She lastly cited investment return for the District's several holding accounts, those being 0.950% with the Tulare County Pooled Investment Fund, 0.206% with the State LAIF, and 0.350% with Citizen's Money Market Fund.

Then, Ms. Artis reported on the following Designated Funds: Water Sale Rate Stabilization, Groundwater Replenishment, and CVP Environmental Charges.

Approval of Bill Payments - Ms. Artis presented the list of bills submitted for ratification and approval by the Board. After scrutiny of particular bills, the Board, by the motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Thomas and unanimously carried by all Directors present, accepted the financial statements and, by said motion, check nos. 53323 through 53370 totaling \$189,108.89 were all either ratified or approved as paid, exclusive of any voided or withheld checks.

2020 Audit - Status Update - Ms. Artis indicated that the audit materials were finished, and the review process is underway.

Engineering Report:

Update on Engineering Activities: Mr. Barroll provided an update on engineering activities highlighting several ongoing projects in the District that impacted District facilities. Mr. Barroll reported on the following three projects: 1) Bardsley Street/West Street development; 2) 4 Creeks Dairy Gas Pipeline; and 3) Prosperity Street at J Street developments.

Next, Mr. Barroll provided a report on the Area 18-Grant Agreement, noting that Grant Agreement provides for \$1,127,582 in federal funding to design and construct a new pipeline to serve the customers that were originally served by the Area 18 Pipeline. By a motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Rogers, and unanimously carried by all Directors present to approve Area 18 - Grant Agreement R21AP10524 - Area 18 Water and Energy Efficiency Modernization Project as presented.

Then, Mr. Barroll reported on Area 18 Consultant Services mentioning

Provost & Pritchard has provided a quote of \$44,900 to complete CEQA and NEPA permitting as required for the Area 18 Modernization Project. Mr. Barroll noted that \$150,000 was budgeted in the grant budget for all environmental permitting. By a motion of Director Borges, seconded by Director Rogers, and unanimously carried by all Directors present to approve Provost & Pritchard CEQA/NEPA Services for Area 18 Pipeline Project Tulare, County, California, Consultant Services Agreement as presented.

Management Staff Reports:

SGMA Matters - Mr. Fukuda summarized recent activities concerning the Kaweah Subbasin. Mr. Fukuda first updated the Board on the Kaweah Subbasin activities focused on establishing a groundwater pumping allocation/cap and mentioned the Kaweah Basin Management Team Committee meeting is scheduled for October 20th.

Mid-Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MKGSA) Update - Mr. Fisher provided for Board discussion an MKGSA Monthly Irrigated Acreage ET by Inches/Feet Chart comparing October 2020 - September 2021. Mr. Fisher reported the following results: Total Irrigated acreage in the MKGSA: 63,195 Acres; Weighted average irrigation efficiency 0.8 percent; Average annual irrigation acreage ET: 2.63 AF; Assumed amount pumped for irrigated acres: 3.29 AF.

Mr. Fukuda thereupon presented the MKGSA Groundwater Allocation and Pumping Cap Proposal, October 2021, Version 8. Mr. Fukuda provided the details of the program as they stood, including a schedule for implementation by the Summer of 2022.

Friant Matters - Mr. Fukuda updated the Board on Friant Matters, beginning with a Friant-Kern Canal Middle Reach Correction Project report. Mr. Fukuda reported that the Bureau of Reclamation awarded Brosamer & Wall/Tutor Perini a contract for \$177 million.

Then, Mr. Fukuda updated the Board on the San Luis Delta Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA) activities, reporting that the SLDWA was moving forward with the Transmission Project, which is a \$292 million project to construct a new power line. He also noted that Panoche Water District had reached Settlement for approximately \$1 Million for unaccounted diversions and that Friant would be receiving a refund.

Legislation - No Report provided.

General Manager Report - Mr. Fukuda reported on activities of the Collaborative Action Plan, a meeting with the Audubon Society, and a request from Self Help Enterprises to assist with the locating a site for a new well for the community of Okieville.

Matters for Consideration of Board Action

Resolution No. 21-10 - Mr. Fukuda presented the established form of resolution to levy the annual assessment to partially fund CVP water purchased in 2021 and for groundwater recharge operations. It was moved by Director Martin and seconded by Director Rogers, duly put and carried, that Resolution No. 21-10 levying an assessment of 0.8% of the district assessed valuation on all lands within the District, be approved and adopted.

Resolution No. 21-11 - Mr. Fukuda presented the established form of resolution to fix the annual charge for 2021 to defray the costs to the restoration fees. It was moved by Director Thomas, seconded by Director Martin and unanimously carried by all board members present, duly put and carried, the Resolution No. 21-11, fixing a charge of \$16 per acre on all lands within the district, to be approved and adopted.

Board Member Reports of Meetings:

Director Bixler asked if any of the Directors have reports on meetings

they attended or wished to discuss at this time.

Director Borges reported on the Kaweah and St. Johns River Association (KSJRA) Board of Director meeting held October 7, 2021. Director Borges also reported attending the Kaweah Basin Water Quality Association Board of Directors meeting held on October 7, 2021.

Director Martin also reported attending the Kaweah Basin Water Quality Association Board of Directors meeting on October 7, 2021.

Director Thomas mentioned attending the Wutchumna Ditch Company Board meeting on September 8, 2021.

Closed Session:

The Board thereupon entered into closed session under

Upon returning to Open Session, Present Bixler noted that there were no actions taken in Closed Session.

There being no other items to come before the Board of Directors, the meeting was then adjourned.



Secretary



President